

Southeast District Health
Department

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023



A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

I am pleased to present the Southeast District Health Department 2022-2023 Annual Report. This report highlights the work completed by Department staff to achieve our mission to the highest standard.

The past year has brought change and growth to the Department. We have expanded services across the district and continue to grow and implement programs that better serve the residents of Johnson, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, and Richardson counties. We have been diligent in enhancing and expanding our services that fill gaps in public health services that are lacking in southeast Nebraska and that align with the last iteration of the Department's Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement plan. Additionally, we have focused on enhancing our internal process to be a more efficient organization and to better serve the public. Our staff work tirelessly and are dedicated to ensuring all communities have access to our public health services.

I want to extend sincere appreciation to the Board of Health, community partners, and staff of the Southeast District Health Department. Their commitment and contributions further the Department's mission and help guide the services we provide to the community.

The Southeast District Health Department will continue to focus our efforts on creating a community where people can easily make healthy choices and have access to services that support a long, healthy lifestyle.

Please enjoy this report and do not hesitate to contact any of our team members with concerns, questions, or suggestions.



Grant Brueggemann, MPH



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NEBRASKA LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

In 2001, The Nebraska Legislature passed the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act (LB 692), which established the system of local public health departments throughout the state. As a part of Nebraska Health Care Funding Act, Nebraska local health departments work to meet the Three Core Functions of Public Health.



Assessment: Collect and analyze information about health problems in Nebraska communities.



Policy Development: Work with partners to apply data, educate the public, and develop programs and policies — all to address and prevent illness, disease and disability.



Assurance: Promote effective coordination and use of community resources to protect the health and well-being of Nebraskans.

The activities and programs of the Southeast District Health Department (SEDHD) are summarized under the associated 10 Essential Services of Public Health. The 10 Essential Services provide a working definition of the public health system and a guiding framework for the responsibilities of local public health partners.

The 10 Essential Services include:

1. Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems.
2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community.
3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues.
4. Mobilize community partnerships and action to identify and solve health problems.
5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
6. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
7. Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
8. Assure competent public and personal health care workforce.
9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.
10. Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.



BOARD OF HEALTH

SEDHD is governed by the Southeast District Board of Health which includes one county commissioner from each county, one public-spirited community member from each county, a physician, a dentist, and a veterinarian.

Johnson County

Dr. Ted Evans - County Commissioner
Gina Kerner - Community Member

Nemaha County

Mike Hall - County Commissioner
Marvin Bohling - Community Member
Dr. Mike Speece - Veterinarian
Dr. Michael Zaruba - Medical Director

Otoe County

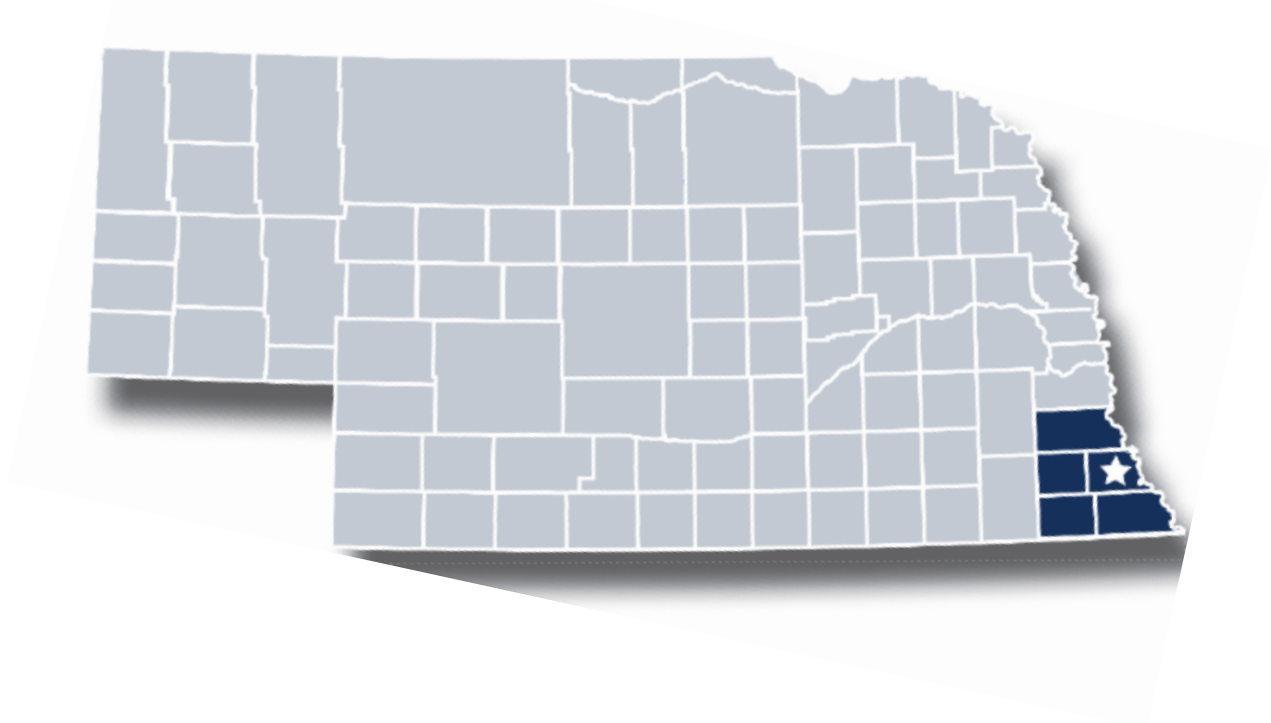
James Parsons - County Commissioner
John Groathouse - Community Member
Dr. Sonya Kummer - Dentist

Pawnee County

Jan Lang - County Commissioner
Karly Black- Community Member

Richardson County

David Sickle - County Commissioner
Beth Vonderschmidt - Community Member



THE DEPARTMENT

Mission

To prevent disease and promote overall health through outreach, services, and partnerships while educating and empowering all those who live, work, and visit Johnson, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, and Richardson counties.

Vision

To utilize a community-centered approach to ensure all individuals have equal access to quality services to meet their needs and improve the overall health of the population.

Southeast District Health Department Staff

Grant Brueggemann	Executive Director
Courtney Gerdes	Office Coordinator
Rosanne Rothfuss	Public Health Nurse
Christine Eltiste	Public Health Nurse
Brittany Rogge	Public Health Dental Hygienist
Hannah Kirkendall	Emergency Response Coordinator
Devin Topp	Public Health Educator
Megan Piper	Growing Gr8 Kids Supervisor
Jayne Vice	Growing Great Kids Program Coordinator
Krystal Nickels	Family Support Specialist
Natalie Smith	Family Support Specialist
Melanie Aultz	Family Support Specialist

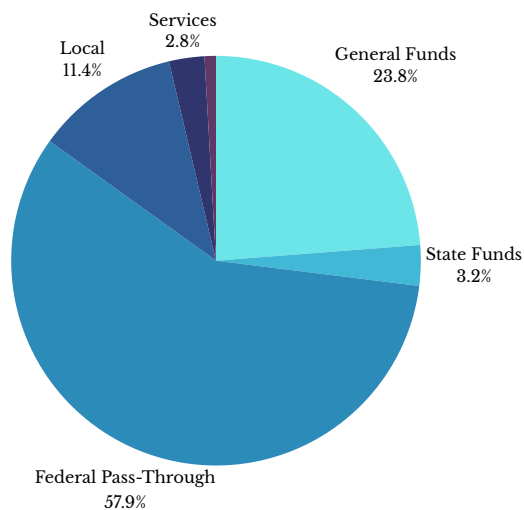


FINANCIALS

REVENUE

General Funds	\$478,073
State Funds	\$64,847
Federal Pass-Through	\$1,167,162
Local	\$228,566
Services	\$56,346
Donations and Interest Income	\$17,230

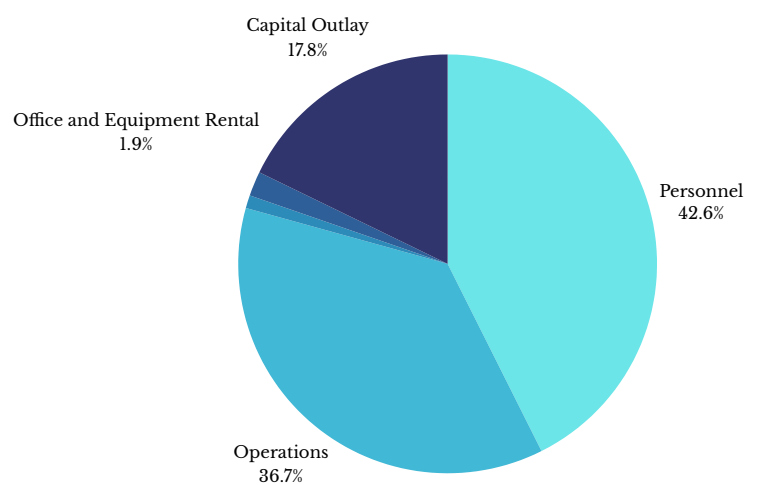
Total Revenue: \$2,012,224



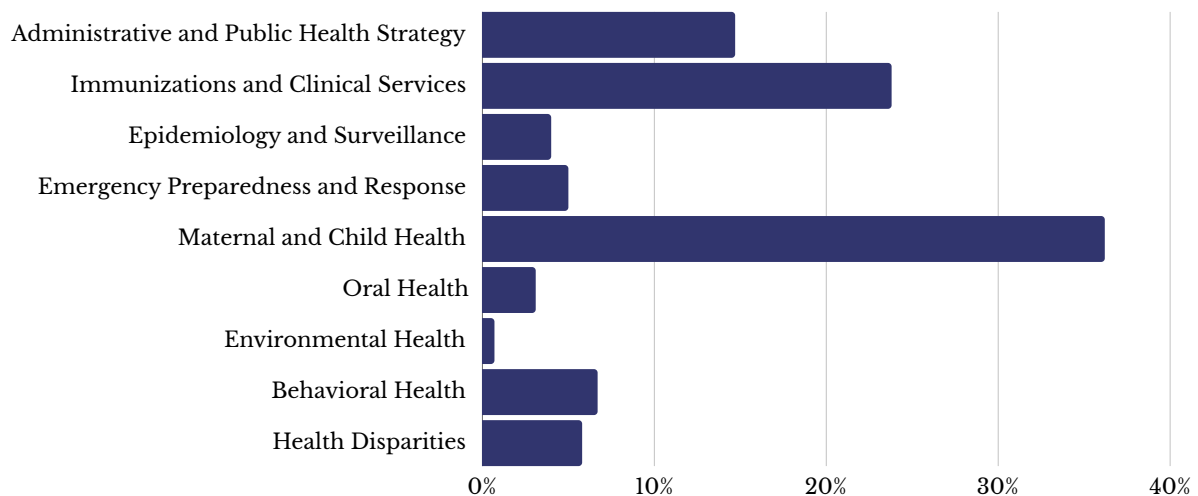
EXPENSES

Personnel	\$665,251
Operations	\$572,312
Supplies and Materials	\$16,045
Office and Equipment Rental	\$28,910
Capital Outlay	\$278,255

Total Expenses: \$1,560,773



EXPENSES BY PROGRAM



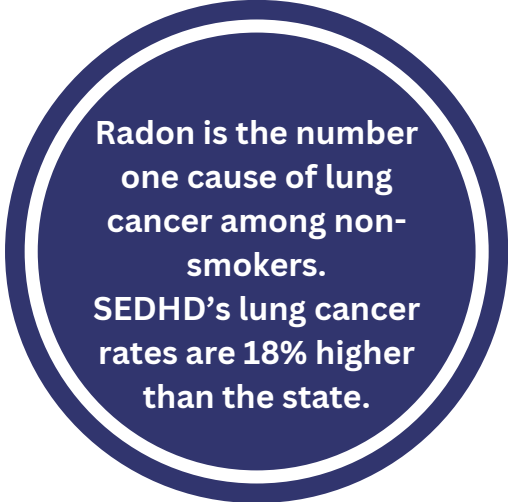
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

What We Do:

SEDHD conducts various environmental health programs including radon testing, mosquito trapping, and air and water quality monitoring to promote a healthy environment and prevent public health hazards. Through these initiatives, SEDHD aims to identify and address potential threats, promote public awareness, and implement preventive measures, contributing to the overall well-being of the community.

Why We Do It:

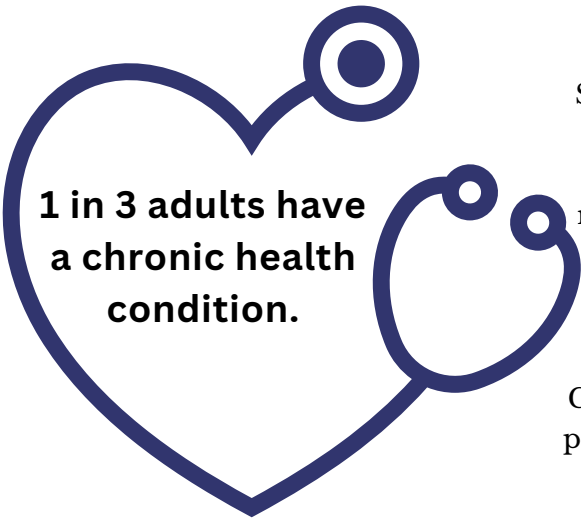
Environmental health programs play a pivotal role in safeguarding community well-being by actively addressing and mitigating the impact of environmental factors. These programs are essential in guaranteeing not only clean air, water, and safe living conditions but also in proactively preventing diseases, thereby fostering comprehensive health and resilience within communities.



Radon is the number one cause of lung cancer among non-smokers.

SEDHD's lung cancer rates are 18% higher than the state.

CHRONIC DISEASE AND INJURY PREVENTION



1 in 3 adults have a chronic health condition.

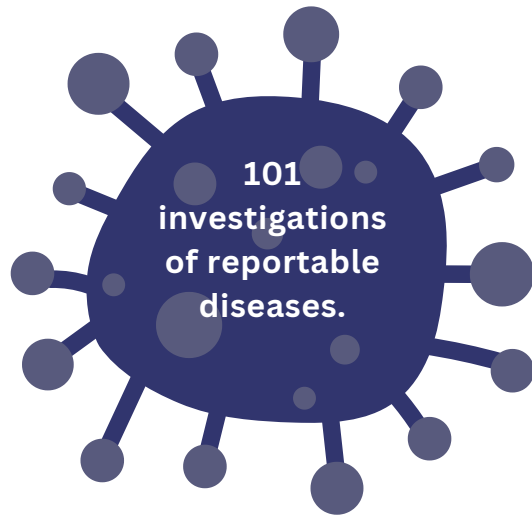
What We Do:

SEDHD conducts health screenings at community events and worksite wellness events for local businesses. We provide education and resources related to diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer, and other chronic diseases.

Why We Do It:

Chronic disease and injury prevention and control programs save lives, support the economy through a healthy workforce, improve quality of life, and reduce healthcare expenditures.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE

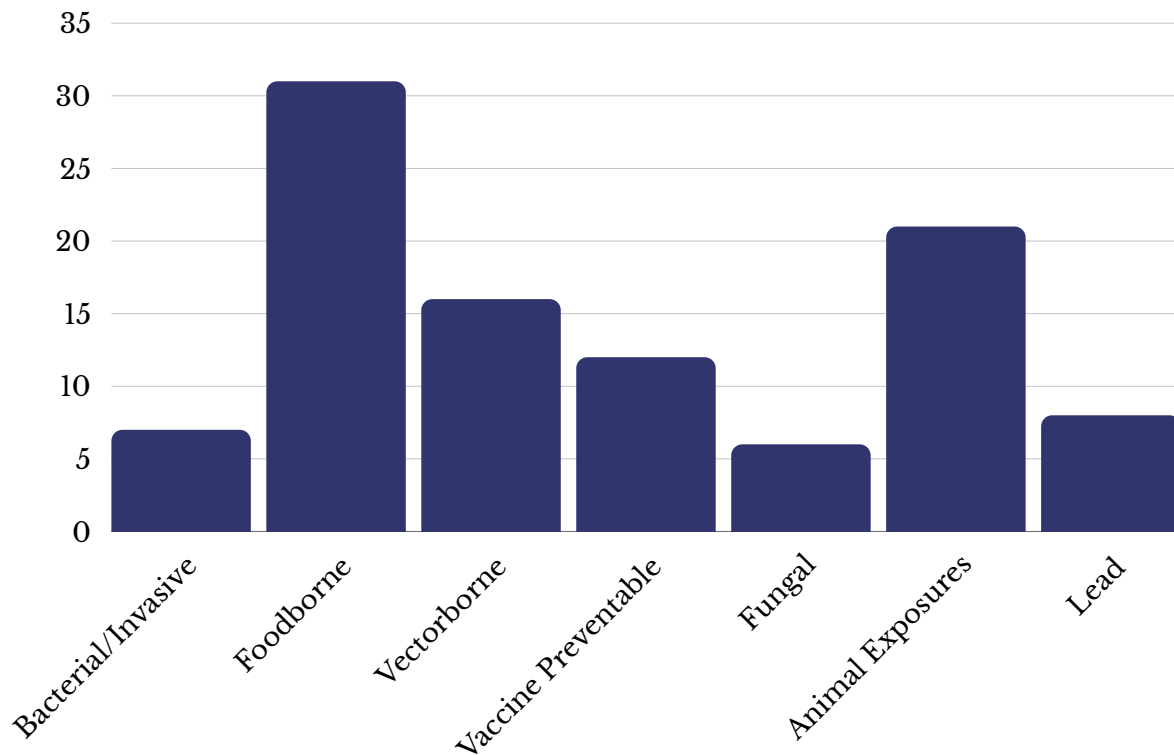


What We Do:

SEDHD conducts disease surveillance, responds to outbreaks, and prevents and mitigates the spread of infectious and communicable diseases.

Why We Do It:

Disease surveillance is an important epidemiological tool to monitor the health of the community. Pathogens could spread rapidly throughout a community without disease surveillance.



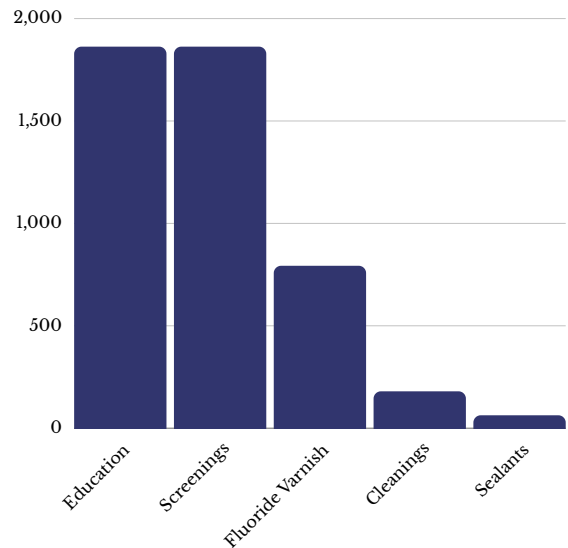
ORAL HEALTH

What We Do:

SEDHD provides dental screenings, fluoride varnish treatments, cleanings, sealants, and education to children age 0-18 through partnerships with local school districts and daycares. Brighter Smiles also provides these same services to elderly patients in nursing homes that range from 65 and older.

Why We Do It:

Oral health is linked to whole-body health across the lifespan. Oral disease can lead to pain, heart disease, stroke, and other health conditions. Public health services can reduce the risk of oral health disease and other chronic diseases.



IMMUNIZATIONS



What We Do:

SEDHD provides child and adult immunizations to insured and uninsured community members at its primary office locations and through traveling clinics to minimize vaccine preventable disease transmission throughout the district.

Why We Do It:

Immunizations are crucial for safeguarding public health by preventing the spread of infectious diseases. They work by stimulating the immune system to recognize and combat harmful pathogens, thereby reducing the incidence and severity of illnesses, protecting individuals, and contributing to the overall well-being of communities.

MATERNAL, CHILD, & FAMILY HEALTH



**51% increase in enrollment
over the last four years.**

What We Do:
SEDHD provides home visitation services to families in the district, utilizing the Health Families America (HFA) approved curriculum.

Why We Do It:

Home visitation strengthens parent-child relationships, promotes health child development, and enhances family wellbeing.



**908 visits completed
39 families served
42 focus children**



31
Home safety
checklists completed
19
Child safety
seats checked

MINORITY HEALTH

What We Do:

SEDHD collaborates with minority community leaders and professionals to build relationships and foster engagement to reduce health disparities across minority populations.

Why We Do It:

Strengthening partnerships and collaborating with community leaders enhances engagement with and participation of minority populations in our planning and programs.



Total district population: 38,696

Minority population: 11.7%

7% of residents speak languages other than English

Common Languages: *Spanish & Mayan languages*



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